

REMARKS

Prior to a first examination, please enter the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-138 are pending. No claim has been amended by this preliminary amendment. No claim has been canceled. Of pending claims 1-138, claims 1, 24, 34, 39, 41, 47, 53, 59, 72, 84, 109, and 123 are independent claims.

Applicant believes that no new matter has been added by this preliminary amendment.

I) Drawing Amendments

Applicant has amended the drawing of Figure 8B to eliminate overlapping reference numbering with that of Figure 8A.

Figure 8B has been amended by replacing instances of the reference number "842" with --852--.

Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is added by this amendment to Figure 8B.

A clean copy of the amended drawing of Figure 8B is attached hereto as Appendix 1. An annotated copy of the drawing of Figure 8B is attached hereto as Appendix 2 to show the changes made.

Applicant respectfully requests approval of this drawing change by the Examiner.

II) Specification Amendments

Applicant has amended the specification.

The "Brief Description of the Figures" section of the originally filed patent application is missing a brief description of Figures 9C-9E.

Applicant has added three paragraphs prior to the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 25 to provide a brief description of Figures 9C-9E.

This amendment is supported by Figures 9A-9E and Applicant's originally filed specification from page 26, line 10 through page 30, line 3.

Applicant has amended the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 10 of the specification to eliminate the overlapping reference number "842" in the specification. Applicant has amended the reference number therein to read --852-- to be consistent with the drawing amendment of Figure 8B.

Applicant respectfully submits that these corrections do not constitute new matter.

CONCLUSION

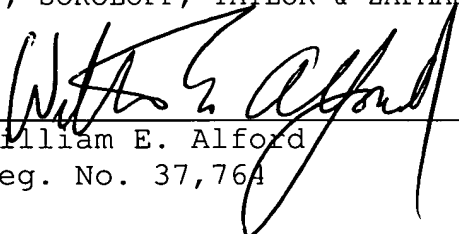
A first examination as to the merits of the pending claims is respectfully requested. Allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited.

Please charge any shortage in fees in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 02-2666 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 3, 2004




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Pat Sullivan

6/3/04

Date



Appendix 2

Annotated version of Amended Figure 8B

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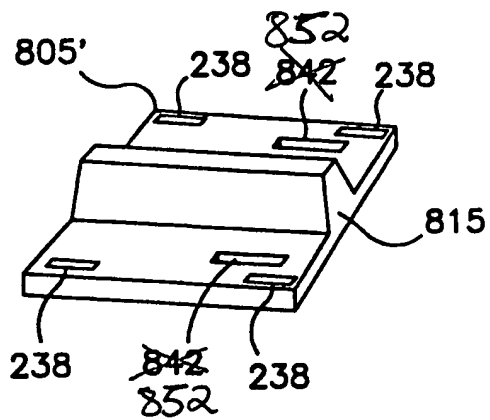


FIG. 8B

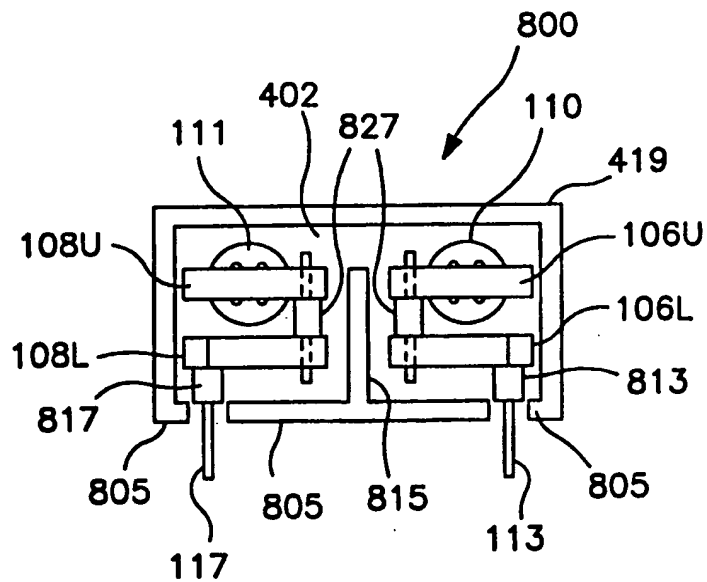


FIG. 8C